

Forest Grove/Nyuzen Sister Cities Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 19, 2022

Meeting Location: Community Auditorium and Video Conference

Members: Present

Nefedov, Larisa	Chair
Stapp, Azumi	Vice-Chair
Anderson, Kermit	Secretary
Stenson, Doreen	Treasurer
Anderson, Jackie	
Beechwood III, John	
Nowlin, Nicole	
Sig Unander	

Members Absent:

Others:

Blackmun, Rich	Staff Liaison-Absent
Ruggles, Anna	Staff Liaison
Rippe, Timothy	City Council Liaison
Guest	Juanita Lint-Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce
	Rebeka Andrade, Program Coordinator

- 1. Called to Order** Meeting was called to order at 4:47 p.m. by Ruggles. Due to COVID-19 the meeting was held via Zoom conferencing. Members were variously in attendance at City Auditorium or connected remotely.
- 2. Quorum** Yes
- 3. Minutes** Minutes from the October 20, 2021, meeting were distributed and reviewed.
Motion: moved by Beechwood III, seconded by Allen, to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried.
- 4. Financial Report** Stenson reports a balance of \$5392.44. Includes Linares donation.
SCC Bottle Drop account is \$218.80.
- 5. Liaison Reports**
 - a. Chamber (Rippe)**

Rippe introduced Juanita Lint, Executive Director Forest Grove, Cornelius Chamber of Commerce to brainstorm with the committee on ideas for expanding SCC activities, increasing community participation and exploring fund raising possibilities. Rippe has no

news to report from the Chamber but suggested that Lint's position in the agenda be moved here.

Lint shared the idea of establishing a Sister Cities club. A modest membership fee could be used to seed other fund-raising events and expand the number participants available for planning and conducting events. Pros and cons of founding such a club were briefly discussed with a fuller discussion projected for the future.

b. City (Ruggles)

- 1) Ruggles introduced the new city Program Coordinator, Rebeka Andrade. She comes to her new position from an administrative post at Pacific University. She is slated to assume the city liaison role currently performed by Ruggles.
- 2) Ruggles reported completion of updating SCC forms for prospective delegates and host families. Both forms include photo release sections. The updated forms were displayed by Stapp. SCC approval of the updated forms was given by consensus.
- 3) Ruggles delivered printed copies of the newly revised SCC brochure to the chamber for further distribution.

6. Sub-Committees Updates

Latin Sub-Committee-No regular meetings of the sub-committee have been held since the last committee meeting. Rippe in collaboration with Unander has identified sixteen people to serve as a search committee to further identify and contact suitable individuals with interest in moving forward in establishing a sister city in Latin America. Rippe described the sixteen individuals as being of diverse background geographically, although the business community is not represented among them.

Rippe further suggested the SCC meet with the prospective search committee possibly in Spring pending COVID protocols then operative.

7. Old Business

a. Dates from Nyuzen for Future Visits

The adult and student delegation dates remain unchanged from last meeting.

- Adult Delegation from Nyuzen-Oct. 3-9, 2022.
- High School Delegation from Nyuzen- Oct. 29-Nov. 2, 2022.

b. Forest Grove 150-year Celebration

Nefedov and Stapp report that various organizations are independently planning their celebration events.

8. New Business

a. Proposed SCC Fundraising Activities

Nefedov and Stapp presented ideas for two activities which could serve both fund-raising and 150th Anniversary celebration objectives.

- 1) Natsu Matsuri (Summer Festival) was described as a festival in which simple games for the young and food items are available for sale.
- 2) Japanese Cooking class. This proved to be popular when offer in the past.

The committee, after some discussion agreed that conducting two events in the same year would be too taxing on volunteers and resources. The Summer Festival is envisioned to occur at a Farmers' Market where a booth could be staffed to conduct the games and food sales. Likely scheduling is August 3, 2022. The cooking class could be publicized at the Aug. 3rd event and scheduled for some time in 2023. This was agreed upon by consensus.

b. SCC Logo

Nefedov asked the committee members to think about creating a logo for the SCC. Bring ideas for a logo or suggestions as to who might be able to design one for us.

- 9. Next Meeting(s)** Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 4:45 pm
- 10. Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 6:04 pm.